

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Claims 98-113 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 5, 8-13, 15-18, 20-31 and 33-62 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 14, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is a full-rate communication mode and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is a half-rate communication mode.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 14, wherein a first station is using the first communication scheme and is performing the steps of receiving the signal-coding parameters, receiving the request and dropping the portion of the signal-coding parameters, wherein the method enables interoperation between the first station and a second station, wherein the second station is using a second communication scheme, wherein the first communication scheme is code division multiple access 2000 variable bitrate-wideband (CDMA2000 VBR-WB) and the second communication scheme is adaptive multi-rate-wideband (AMR-WB).

4. (Original) A method as defined in claim 65, wherein decoding the signal-coding parameters comprises: operating the decoder of said other station in a full-rate mode.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 66, wherein the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises fixed codebook indices and wherein generating replacement signal-coding parameters comprises randomly generating replacement fixed codebook indices.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 14, further comprising inserting an identification of a communication mode to be transmitted along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

8-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
receiving signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal encoded in accordance with a first communication mode of a first communication scheme;
receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using a second communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters; and
in response to the request, dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters to enable transmission of the signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme.

15-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) A system comprising a first station using a first communication scheme and a second station using a second communication scheme;
said first station comprising:
means for encoding a sound signal to generate signal-coding parameters according to a first communication mode of the first communication scheme,

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using a second communication mode of the first communication scheme,

means for dropping, in response to said request, a portion of the signal-coding parameters encoded according to the first communication mode of the first communication scheme, and

means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme;

said second station comprising:

means for receiving the remaining signal-coding parameters,

means for generating replacement signal-coding parameters to replace said dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters, and

means for decoding the signal-coding parameters using the remaining signal-coding parameters and the generated replacement signal-coding parameters.

20-31.

32. (Previously Presented) A device comprising:

means for receiving signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal encoded in accordance with a first communication mode of a first communication scheme;

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using a second communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters; and

means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters to enable transmission of the remaining signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme.

33-62. (Canceled)

63. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 14, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a first

communication mode of a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

64. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 14, wherein the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises fixed codebook indices.

65. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 63, further comprising transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme; generating replacement signal-coding parameters to replace the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters; and decoding the signal-coding parameters including the replaced portion of the signal-coding parameters according to the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

66. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 14, further comprising: generating replacement signal-coding parameters to replace the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters.

67. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 14, further comprising an initial step of encoding the sound signal in accordance with the first communication mode of the first communication scheme.

68. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 14, further comprising transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme.

69. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 32, further comprising means for encoding the sound signal in accordance with a first communication mode of the first communication scheme that is interoperable with a first communication mode of a second communication scheme; and

means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters according to a second communication mode of the first communication scheme that is not interoperable with the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

70. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 32, wherein the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises fixed codebook indices.

71. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 32, wherein the means for receiving a request is arranged to receive a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using a half-rate communication mode.

72. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 32, wherein the device is a CDMA2000 VBR-WB coder.

73. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 32, wherein:
the means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters is arranged to insert an identification of the communication mode to be transmitted along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

74. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 32, further comprising means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters according to a second communication mode of the first communication scheme that is not interoperable with the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

75. (Previously Presented) A device comprising:
means for receiving an indication that signal-coding parameters have been transmitted using a second communication mode of a first communication scheme instead of a first communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters, wherein the signal-coding parameters are representative of a sound signal; and

means for generating, in response to said indication, replacement signal-coding parameters to replace a portion of the signal-coding parameters dropped to reduce the bit rate during transmission in order to produce second signal-coding parameters according to a first communication mode of a second communication scheme.

76. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 75, wherein the means for generating replacement signal-coding parameters is arranged to randomly generate replacement signal-coding parameters.

77. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 76, wherein:
the randomly generated replacement signal-coding parameters comprise randomly generated replacement fixed codebook indices.

78. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 75, further comprising means for transmitting the signal coding parameters including the replaced portion of the signal-coding parameters according to the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

79. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 75, further comprising means for operating a decoder in a full-rate mode.

80. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 75, further comprising means for receiving the signal-coding parameters and means for decoding the sound signal using the second signal-coding parameters.

81. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
receiving an indication that signal-coding parameters have been transmitted using a second communication mode of a first communication scheme instead of a first communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters, wherein the signal-coding parameters are

representative of a sound signal encoded according to the first communication mode of the first communication scheme; and

in response to said indication, generating replacement signal-coding parameters to replace a portion of the signal-coding parameters dropped to reduce the bit rate during transmission in order to produce second signal-coding parameters according to a first communication mode of a second communication scheme.

82. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 81, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with the first communication mode of the second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

83. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 81, further comprising transmitting the second signal coding parameters according to the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

84. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 81, further comprising receiving the signal-coding parameters and decoding the sound signal using the second signal-coding parameters.

85. (Previously Presented) A device comprising:

a first input configured to receive signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal encoded in accordance with a first communication mode of a first communication scheme;

a second input configured to receive a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using a second communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters; and

a processing module configured to drop a portion of the signal-coding parameters to enable transmission of the remaining signal-coding parameters using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme.

86. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 85, further comprising: an encoder configured to encode the sound signal in accordance with a first communication mode of the first communication scheme that is interoperable with a first communication mode of a second communication scheme; and

a transmitter configured to transmit the remaining signal-coding parameters according to a second communication mode of the first communication scheme that is not interoperable with the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

87. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 85, wherein the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises fixed codebook indices.

88. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 85, wherein the second input is further arranged to receive a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters using a half-rate communication mode.

89. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 85, wherein the device is a CDMA2000 VBR-WB coder.

90. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 85, wherein the processing module is further arranged to insert an identification of the communication mode to be transmitted along with the remaining signal-coding parameters.

91. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 85, further comprising a transmitter configured to transmit the remaining signal-coding parameters according to a second communication mode of the first communication scheme that is not interoperable with the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

92. (Previously Presented) A device comprising:

a receiver configured to receive an indication that signal-coding parameters have been transmitted using a second communication mode of a first communication scheme instead of a first communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters, wherein the signal-coding parameters are representative of a sound signal; and

a processing module configured to generate, in response to said indication, replacement signal-coding parameters to replace a portion of the signal-coding parameters dropped to reduce the bit rate during transmission in order to produce second signal-coding parameters according to a first communication mode of a second communication scheme.

93. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 92, wherein the processing module is further arranged to randomly generate replacement signal-coding parameters.

94. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 93, wherein the randomly generated replacement signal-coding parameters comprise randomly generated replacement fixed codebook indices.

95. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 92, further comprising a transmitter configured to transmit the signal coding parameters including the replaced portion of the signal-coding parameters according to the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

96. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 92, further comprising a second processing module configured to operate a decoder in a full-rate mode.

97. (Previously Presented) A device as defined in claim 92, wherein the receiver is further configured to receive the signal-coding parameters, the device further comprising a decoder configured to decode the sound signal using the second signal-coding parameters.

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98-113. (Canceled)

INTERVIEW SUMMARY:

The undersigned conducted a telephone interview with Examiner He and his Supervisor on May 7, 2009. The Examiner agreed to withdraw the objection to claims 2-4, 6 and 7. After discussing the matters, the Examiner indicated he was convinced by the arguments put forth regarding the §112 rejection, first para. of claim 14 and the §103(a) rejection of claim 14 (*Graf*). The undersigned agreed that claim 3 would be amended.